

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

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AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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FOR AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, MX, RP

SUBJECT: A.P. RELEASES ON INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR GREEN JAN 26

REF: MEXICO 1175

1. MEXICAN BIRTHS. MANILA (AP)--THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT'S NEW POPULATION AFFAIRS COORDINATOR SAID TUESDAY THE INCREASING RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH IN MEXICO HAD VERY STRONG IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND URGED ACTION TO LIMIT POPULATION IN TIME.

IN MEXICO WE HAVE A BIG PROBLEM WITH REGARD TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CAUSED BY UNDER AND UNEMPLOYMENT, SAID AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN, FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS WHO LEFT MANILA AFTER HIS FIRST VISIT IN HIS NEW POST.

THE MEDIAN AGE IS 15 YEARS OLD, THE POPULATION GROWTH RATE OF 3.6 PERCENT ANNUALLY.

YOU CAN JUST IMAGINE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THOSE KIDS
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HIT THE LABOR MARKET. IT HAS VERY STRONG IMPLICATIONS

FOR THE UNITED STATES. I DON'T THINK PEOPLE ARE ADEQUATELY AWARE OF THAT.

THERE IS A QUESTION HERE OF TRYING TO FOCUS ON THE PROBLEM IN TIME BEFORE IT GETS VERY SERIOUS.

GREEN WAS COMMENTING ON HIS VISIT TO MEXICO BEFORE HIS TRIP TO ASIA. (END)

2. POPULATION TURMOIL. MANILA (AP)--THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S NEW MAN IN CHARGE OF POPULATION AFFAIRS RAISED TUESDAY THE SPECTRE OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY OVERPOPULATED, ECONOMICALLY DESPERATE COUNTRIES DRIVEN TO IRRATIONAL DECISIONS IF THE WORLD FAILED TO COPE WITH OVER-POPULATION.

AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN, FIRST AMERICAN DIPLOMAT ASSIGNED TO STUDY THE WORLD POPULATION PROBLEMS, ALSO SAID FAILURE TO STEM RUNAWAY OVERPOPULATION COULD LEAD TO SOCIAL AND POLITICAL TURMOIL, MORE AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENTS, LOSS OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ENFORCED STERILIZATION.

THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS...IS THE GREATEST THREAT TO THE WORLD, SAID GREEN IN AN INTERVIEW BEFORE HE LEFT MANILA ON HIS FIRST TOUR AS STATE DEPARTMENT POPULATION AFFAIRS COORDINATOR OF OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES. AMONG THE COUNTRIES HE WILL VISIT IS INDIA WHICH HAS EXPLODED AN ATOMIC DEVICE.

IF THEY PASS INTO THE HANDS OF COUNTRIES THAT ARE ECONOMICALLY DESPERATE, THAT CAN'T RUN THEMSELVES AND ARE SUBJECT TO IRRATIONAL DECISIONS, THIS COULD BLOW UP THE WHOLE WORLD.

THAT IS WHY I SAY THE POPULATION ISSIE IS SO CRITICAL. OTHER ISSUES TEND TO PALE IN COMPARISON WITH THIS ONE.

GREEN LEFT FOR SINGAPORE, JAKARTA, BANGKOK, Dacca AND NEW DELHI IN HIS NEW POSITION AS POPULATION AFFAIRS COORDINATOR AND CHAIRMAN OF A TASK FORCE INVOLVING FOUR UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. CABINET DEPARTMENTS. HE IS A FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS AND AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA.

GREEN SAID ENFORCED STERILIZATION MAY BE THE ALTERNATIVE IF POPULATION GROWTH CANNOT BE STEMMED BY VOLUNTARY MEANS. THERE HAVE BEEN SUGGESTIONS OF SUCH A PROGRAM IN THE INDIAN PUNJAB.

IT MAY NOT COME TO THAT, HE SAID, I HOPE IT DOESN'T.
THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO THINK IT WILL.

IF PEOPLE CANNOT DEAL WITH THESE THINGS IN A RATIONAL WAY,
AND A COOPERATIVE WAY AND A VOLUNTARY WAY, THEN ENFORCED
STERILIZATION CAN HAPPEN.

WE ARE IN AN INCREASINGLY CROWDED WORLD AND COMMUNITY.
THEREFORE, THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL CANNOT BE SOLELY
APPEALED TO. IT HAS TO BE THE RIGHTS OF THE COMMUNITY
THAT INCREASINGLY ARE TAKEN INTO COGNIZANCE.

WE ARE MOVING IN OUR OWN COUNTRY TOWARD GROUP RESPONSIBILITY AND THE RIGHTS AND INFLUENCE OF THE GROUP. AN INDIVIDUAL CANNOT REALLY ASSERT HIS VIEWS VERY EFFECTIVELY. I AM NOT SAYING THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL ARE NOT IMPORTANT. THEY HAVE TO BE BALANCED.

THERE HAS TO BE MORE HARMONY. LIKE THE FELLOW WHO WANTS TO SMOKE IN AN AIRPLANE COMPARTMENT. WE ARE LIVING IN A CROWDED WORLD, AND YOU KNOW A GUY JUST CAN'T SMOKE. HE'S GOT THE RIGHT, BUT HE'S GOT TO THINK OF THE COMMUNITY.

I DON'T THINK THIS PROBLEM OF POPULATION HAS BEEN
THOUGH OF SUFFICIENTLY IN TERMS OF ITS POLITICAL AND SOCIAL
CONSEQUENCES.

WE SEE THESE OVERCROWDED CITIES AROUND THE WORLD. THEY BECOME THE FORGING BED FOR DRUG ADDICTION, FOR CRIME, FOR MASSIVE UNDER-EMPLOYMENT, RESTLESS POPULATIONS, AND ALSO EXTREMISM.

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GOVERNMENTS WITNESSING THIS RIGHT AROUND THEIR MINISTRIES BECOME QUITE ALARMED AND THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS IN FAIRLY STRONG WAYS IF THEY ARE GOING TO KEEP IT UNDER CONTROL. IT CAN BE RELATED, THEREFORE, TO AUTHORITARIANISM.

I THINK THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THE WORLD'S POPULATION WILL NEVER GO UP TO SEVEN OR EIGHT BILLION SIMPLY BECAUSE DEATH RATES WILL GO UP AND NATURE WILL TAKE CARE OF THIS IN ITS OWN WAY.

THE WORLD'S RESOURCES ARE LIMITED, AND IF IT GOES ON THE WAY IT IS NOW, WE ALREADY ARE SEEING THE PHENOMENON OF RISING DEATH RATES IN INDIA AND BANGLADESH AND IN A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

IF THE PROBLEM IS NOT RESOLVED IN A HUMANE WAY BY
MAN TAKING SENSIBLE MEASURES, NATURE IS GOING TO SOLVE IT
IN ITS WON WAY WHICH MAY NOT BE VERY PLEASANT FOR COUNTLESS
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. (END)

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